

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claims 1-35. (Canceled).

36. (Currently Amended) Container delimited by a wall arrangement comprising ~~shaped wall arrangement~~ a front wall, a rear wall and a pair of shaped side walls that protrudes towards the exterior of said container, each shaped side wall being connected to said front wall along a first edge, and to said rear wall along a second edge, each shaped side wall comprising an outer shaped panel attached to an inner shaped panel, said container comprising a stiffening element arranged to stiffen said shaped ~~side wall~~ wall arrangement, wherein said stiffening element comprises a substantially flat stiffening wall extending between said first edge and said second edge and spaced ~~distanced~~ from said ~~the corresponding shaped side wall arrangement~~.

Claims 37-38. (Canceled).

39. (Currently Amended) Container according to claim ~~[[38]]~~ 36, wherein said stiffening wall has a length substantially the same as a longitudinal dimension of said shaped side wall arrangement, said length and said longitudinal dimension being measured parallel to said first edge.

40. (Currently Amended) Container according to claim 39, and furthermore comprising an anchoring element arranged to anchor said stiffening wall to supporting wall adjacent to said shaped side wall arrangement.

41. (Currently Amended) Container according to claim 40, wherein said anchoring element comprises an anchoring wall adjacent to said shaped side wall arrangement.

42. (Previously Presented) Container according to claim 41, wherein said anchoring wall has a longitudinal extent measured parallel to said first edge substantially the same as said length of said stiffening wall.

43. (Previously Presented) Container according to claim 41, wherein said anchoring wall has a substantially flat shape and is fixed to a flat portion of said supporting wall.

44. (Previously Presented) Container according to claim 41, wherein said anchoring wall is glued to said supporting wall.

45. (Previously Presented) Container according to claim 41, wherein said anchoring wall is rotated by approximately 90° in relation to said stiffening wall.

46. (Currently Amended) Container according to claim ~~[[36]]~~ 71, wherein ~~said each shaped side wall arrangement~~ comprises a convex wall.

47. (Currently Amended) Container according to claim ~~[[46]]~~ 71, wherein said convex ~~wall portion~~ comprises a portion of cylindrical surface.

48. (Previously Presented) Container according to claim 47, wherein said portion of cylindrical surface comprises a semicylindrical surface that extends around an axis substantially passing through said stiffening wall.

49. (Currently Amended) Container according to claim 36, wherein said ~~each~~ shaped side wall arrangement comprises a first flat wall and a second flat wall that intersect each other along a common edge.

50. (Currently Amended) Container according to one of claim ~~[[36]]~~ 71, wherein said shaped side wall arrangement comprises a substantially flat intermediate portion and convex peripheral portions.

51. (Currently Amended) Container according to ~~one of claim~~ ~~[[36]]~~ 71, wherein said shaped side wall arrangement comprises a first convex portion with convexity turned towards the inside of said container and a second concave portion with concavity turned towards the inside of said container.

52. (Currently Amended) Container according to claim 36, wherein said ~~shaped wall arrangement~~ comprises a side wall arrangement of a stiff packet with a hinged lid for cigarettes.

53. (Currently Amended) Container according to claim 52, wherein said side-wall arrangement comprises ~~a pair of facing side walls interposed between a substantially flat front wall and a substantially flat rear~~ front wall of said packet and a substantially flat rear wall.

54. (Currently Amended) Foldable blank for forming a container, comprising a first greater panel, a second greater panel, external panels provided at opposite sides of said second greater panel, a longitudinal panel and a further longitudinal panel respectively arranged on opposite sides of said first greater panel parallel to said first greater panel, a pair of longitudinal strips each having a longitudinal side in common respectively with said longitudinal panel or with said further longitudinal panel, wherein said longitudinal panel and said further longitudinal panel are each subdivided into a first zone having a side in common with said first greater panel and a second zone having a side in common with the corresponding longitudinal strip, a first longitudinal crease separating said first zone from said second zone, a second longitudinal crease separating said longitudinal strip from said second zone ~~a longitudinal panel that develops parallel to said first greater panel, a longitudinal strip that has a longitudinal side common to said longitudinal panel, wherein said longitudinal panel is subdivided into a first zone that has a side in common with said first greater panel, and a second zone that has a side in common with said longitudinal strip.~~

55. (Previously Presented) Foldable blank according to claim 54, wherein said first zone has a transverse extent greater than a further transverse extent of said second zone, said transverse extent and said further transverse extent being measured perpendicular to an axis along which said longitudinal panel extends.

56. (Previously Presented) Foldable blank according to claim 55, wherein said first greater panel is interposed between a first transverse panel and a second transverse panel lying on opposite sides of said first greater panel along said axis.

57. (Previously Presented) Foldable blank according to claim 56, wherein said first transverse panel and said second transverse panel extend parallel to said axis by a quantity substantially corresponding to said further transverse extent of said second zone.

58. (Canceled).

59. (Currently Amended) Foldable blank according to claim ~~[[58]]~~ 54, wherein said first zone extends parallel to said first longitudinal crease for a length substantially the same as a further length of said greater panel along said first longitudinal crease.

60. (Currently Amended) Foldable blank according to claim ~~[[58]]~~ 54, wherein said longitudinal strip is connected to said second zone along a second longitudinal crease is substantially parallel to said first longitudinal crease.

61. (Currently Amended) Foldable blank according to claim 60, ~~when appended to claim 24,~~ wherein said longitudinal strip has a longitudinal extent measured parallel to said second longitudinal crease substantially equal to said length of said second zone.

62. (Currently Amended) Foldable blank according to claim ~~[[60]]~~ 54, wherein said longitudinal strip is trapezium-shaped, said second longitudinal crease defining a larger base of said trapezium.

63. (Currently Amended) Foldable blank according to claim ~~[[58]]~~ 54, wherein said first zone is provided with a cutting line that extends through said first zone in a tilted direction in relation to said first longitudinal crease.

64. (Previously Presented) Foldable blank according to claim 63, wherein said second zone is provided with a further cutting line that extends through said second zone in a direction tilted in a specular manner in relation to said cutting line with respect to said first longitudinal crease.

65. (Previously Presented) Foldable blank according to claim 64, wherein said cutting line and said further cutting line are provided with joints.

66. (Previously Presented) Foldable blank according to claim 54, wherein said first zone is provided with a plurality of creases parallel to one another arranged to give said first zone a certain yieldability, such that said first zone may take on a concave configuration when folded.

67. (Currently Amended) Foldable blank according to claim 66, wherein said ~~plurality of creases comprises first creases obtained in a first peripheral region of said first zone~~

~~and second creases obtained in a second peripheral region of said first zone, said first peripheral region and said second peripheral region being separated by a middle region of said first zone~~
first zone is provided with a first bundle of multiple creases and a second bundle of multiple creases arranged at the borders of a central region without creases.

68. (Currently Amended) Foldable blank according to claim 54, wherein said first zone is provided with an intermediate longitudinal crease ~~defining on said first zone a first strip and a second stripe~~equidistant from the longitudinal borders of said first zone.

69. (Canceled).

70. (Previously Presented) Foldable blank according to claim 54, and defining a die-cut cardboard for packets for cigarettes.

71. (New) Container according to claim 36, wherein each shaped side wall comprises at least a convex portion.

72. (New) Container according to claim 36, further comprising a gap between each shaped side wall and its corresponding stiffening wall.